

## OPENING OKLAHOMA.

### The Friends of Oklahoma Assemble at Wichita, Kan.

Congressman Springer Gives Some Details of What His Bill Proposes. The Resolutions Adopted—A Committee to Go to Washington.

WICHITA, Kan., Nov. 21.—The early morning train yesterday brought hundreds of delegates to the Inter-State Oklahoma convention. The delegates and visitors met at the Board of Trade headquarters. About ten o'clock Hon. William Springer, of Illinois; Colonel Mansur, of Missouri; General Weaver, of Iowa, arrived and were given an ovation. Shortly before eleven o'clock a procession was formed headed by a band and marched to the Crawford Opera House. The meeting was called to order by George I. House, who introduced Judge J. S. Knapp, of Lawrence, as temporary chairman.

Mr. Walker, of Wellington, was made temporary secretary. Committees were appointed in the usual manner—of twenty-one members each. Judge E. B. Jewett, of Wichita, chairman of the committee on permanent organization; resolutions and memorial; Sidney Clark, of Lawrence, chairman; selection of delegates to Washington; Major J. P. Allen, of Wichita; James M. W. Levy, Wichita, chairman.

After assignments of places for committees to meet the convention adjourned until two p. m. That hour found most of the delegates not occupied on committee in place, while there were several hundred spectators, representing many towns in this and adjoining States. In the absence of committee reports there were enthusiastic calls for "Weaver!" "Springer!" "Charlie Mansur!" and others. The distinguished gentlemen had not arrived and the chair appointed George H. Block-welder and J. O. Davidson to escort them from the hotel and in the meantime George M. Clemen, of Wichita, spoke on the question of the day.

The arrival of the champions of the Oklahoma bill was greeted with prolonged and enthusiastic cheers. Mr. Springer was introduced in an eulogistic manner by the chairman, after which he spoke as follows: "The object of the convention, if I am correctly informed, is to give expression to the sentiments of the people of the Southwest in reference to the opening to settlement of that portion of the Indian Territory west of the lands occupied by the five civilized tribes. It includes what is known as Greer County, the area is nearly 24,000,000 acres—about the size of the State of Ohio. More than half of this area is now occupied by Indian tribes under various treaty stipulations and debarment orders. That part of the proposed Territory, however, which is known as the Cherokee Outlet—Oklahoma proper—and the Public Land Strip, embracing 11,000,000 acres, is not acquired by Indians and only a small portion of it has ever been occupied by Indian tribes. These lands ought to have been opened to actual settlers under the provisions of the Homestead law.

"Two crimes have operated to delay the opening of these lands to settlement. The first is the complication growing out of Indian titles and the second comes from cattle syndicates, who under pretended Indian leases are using large areas of these lands for grazing purposes. The bill now pending in Congress proposes an equitable adjustment of the Indian claims. There will be no difficulty in coming to an agreement with the Creeks and Seminoles in regard to what is known as Oklahoma proper. The Indian claims on these lands are of a very shadowy and unsubstantial character. The Government has a title already to them in fee simple and has paid the price which was agreed upon at the time of purchase. But the Government having declared its purpose to settle friendly Indians upon these lands, it is of the utmost importance that the bill for the organization of the Territory of Oklahoma shall be passed at the ensuing session of Congress. The longer the opening of the land is delayed the greater will be the complications and embarrasments which will confront us. The tide of civilization has already set stayed too long upon the borders of this Territory. The people are impatient to enter upon and possess the promised land.

"The settlement of these lands is a question of time and that time can not be long delayed. The opposition to such settlement is confined to a great cattle syndicate having a lease of 6,000,000 acres. The cattle syndicate insist upon using these lands for cattle pastures, the people insist upon having them for homes. Public sentiment will no longer tolerate the arrangement of any portion of our citizens who demand a large part of the public domain for their private gain and to the exclusion of actual settlers. Civilization will not be stopped at the command of individual greed. Private interests must give way to the public weal. If these cattle companies were more patriotic and less selfish than they are they would withdraw their opposition to this measure and unite with the other citizens of the United States in demanding the immediate opening of this Territory to settlement, but whether they surrender or continue their opposition to the advance of civilization and progress the time of their occupancy is short and the cattle kings must go.

"The time approaches and now is near when these lands must be opened to the people. There is an irrepressible conflict between barbarism and civilization. The result of that conflict is not a matter of doubt. No portion of this continent can be held in barbarism to the exclusion of civilized men. In the organization of the Territory the hopes and aspirations of our fathers will be realized. Every portion of our great domain will have been brought within the protection of the Constitution and the laws. In Oklahoma will be realized in its fullest fruition the prophecy of Isaiah uttered nearly 3,000 years ago: 'The wilderness and the solitary places shall be glad and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.'

At the close of his remarks the committee on permanent organization reported S. Dolman, of Topeka, chairman; H. L.

Pearen, of Wichita, secretary; vice-presidents, Judge Cochran, Nebraska; G. M. Peck, Topeka; Joseph Harris, Wichita; C. H. Keeble, Wellington; Dr. A. S. Chance, Panhandle; John Dale, No-Man's-Land; A. B. Johnson, Arkansas City; A. Corning, Emporia.

The report was adopted and the resolutions reported as follows:

WHEREAS, This convention believes that by the opening of the Oklahoma Territory the rights of the Indian tribes of the Territory will in no wise be impaired, while the condition of such tribes will be greatly improved; and

WHEREAS, We believe it an invariable rule that such vacant territory as that in question will be settled without lawful authority if not lawfully acquired; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the welfare of the country in general and of the surrounding States in particular requires the speedy transformation of the unsettled area of the Indian Territory into a settled and civilized commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The proposed legislation is demanded because of the alarming prevalence of crime in the Indian Territory in the absence of civil government; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge most imperatively on Congress the duty of passing at once substantial legislation pending till to organize the Territory of Oklahoma now well advanced in the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That we call on the President of the United States to exercise all the authority in him vested to render efficacious the laws now existing or to be enacted, looking to the establishment of the proposed new Territory.

General Weaver was loudly called for and received with wild enthusiasm. He said it gave him great pleasure to be present at the meeting. He had long since decided that white men had rights as well as black or red men. It had been his experience that converts come to the movement from becoming acquainted with the facts involved in the Springer bill, which is the result of careful work in the interest of doing justice to all and injury to none. The decision of Attorney-General Garland that Indians have no power to lease lands to cattlemen had greatly weakened the stronghold of opposition. This should impart new courage to the friends and supporters of the movement. He gave a vivid description of the possibilities of Oklahoma and insisted that the interests of Indians and whites demand the passage of the bill. The movement could be successful by creating a public opinion which comes with agitation and discussion. It was not a political position. "Thank God, one place we can meet on a level and part on the square."

[Cheers for many minutes.] To a question asked if Indians would dispose of their lands according to provisions of the bill he said that when cattle men were allowed to lease the Cherokee Strip they paid the Indians \$200,000 and the interest on the money paid them for the land according to the bill would be \$300,000. If they were allowed to lease it would be business for them to accept the provisions of the bill, but as they are not of late it was reasonable that they would, and he had authentic word from them that they would accept. This was true of the other tribes concerned. The General was often interrupted with enthusiastic cheers.

He was followed by Colonel Mansur, who gave statistics concerning Oklahoma and the Territory concerned in the Springer bill. He referred to a sort of sentimentality in some places in the East and South which was attended with opposition to the bill, but that was fast evaporating in the light of facts. Concerning Oklahoma being a home for criminals he said over 300 murders had been committed in that country during the last year. He said there could be no doubt of the passage of the bill in question by the coming Congress.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to go to Washington and use all fair means for the passage of the Springer bill: Hon. Sidney Clark, Lawrence; Captain W. L. Couch, Douglas; Colonel M. M. Murdoch, Wichita; Colonel W. S. Crocker, Caldwell; Auxiliary committee: C. R. McLane, Newton; C. L. Seavery, Arkansas City; George Leprange, No-Man's-Land; J. E. Halliwell, Wellington; Charles Robinson, Chickasaw Nation; C. P. Walker, Colony; Judge E. J. Cochran, Nebraska; A. B. Holstein, Arkansas; J. W. Springer, Chicago; R. Evans, Des Moines; Dr. Morrison Munford, Kansas City; T. B. Bullene, Kansas City; Judge Crook, Wichita; W. K. Carlisle, Wichita; A. B. Barnes, Greensburg; O. G. Chase, No-Man's-Land. The report was adopted with cheers and after a short speech by Sidney Clark the convention adjourned until eight o'clock.

At the evening session Colonel Roberts, of the Chickasaw Nation, J. W. Springer, clerk of the Committee on Territories; Colonel Crocker, of Caldwell; Tom McNeal, of Medicine Lodge, spoke to a crowded house. A resolution of thanks to the Board of Trade was passed. The convention adjourned to meet at the call of the chairman and secretary.

### THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

Colonel Joseph H. Brigham, of Ohio, Elected Master.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 21.—The National Grange held its election yesterday, and much to the surprise of the friends of Acting Master Draper, who expected he would be elected master, Colonel Joseph H. Brigham, of Ohio, was chosen to fill that position. Mr. Leonard Rhone, of Pennsylvania, was elected a member of the executive committee. Routine matters occupied the remainder of the session. Colonel Brigham, who will fill out the unexpired term of the late Hon. Pat Darden, is a giant in stature and a popular agriculturist. He was born in Medina County, O., in 1838, and since 1862 has been a resident of Fulton County, that State. He entered the Union army in 1861, as a private in the Sixty-ninth Ohio volunteers, and came home at the close of the war Colonel of the regiment. He served one term in the Ohio Senate and in 1882 was defeated for Congress. He has been a farmer all his life and a member of the grange since 1873. For the past ten years he has been master of the Ohio State Grange. Last year he was president of the State Board of Agriculture. Colonel Brigham's election is a source of joy to every Ohioan in the grange.

William Devin, who jumped from the fourth story of the steam gauge and lantern company's building near Rochester, N. Y., on the night of the fire, died of his injuries. He was the thirty-eighth known victim.

## SCHOOL PANIC.

### Hundreds of Children Badly Hurt in a Fire Panic at Long Island City.

### Terrible Descent and Drowning of a Parachute Performer in Georgia—A Miner Killed.

### Panic in a Chicago Dry Goods Store Caused by a Fool Salesman—Sad Ending of a Wedding.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—At 1:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon fire broke out in the First ward public school, Long Island City. One of the pupils of the school had gone into the basement and lighted a gas jet. The wood work close to the jet took fire and a flame instantly shot through a crevice in the floor. Over nine hundred children were studying at their desks in the various rooms of the school building. When the children on the first floor saw the flame shooting up through the boards they raised the cry of "Fire!" Instantly there was a panic in every room of the school building. The children rushed pell mell for the narrow doors, crowding, jostling and striking each other in their efforts to get out. The children were piled up at the foot of the stairways in heaps, and all attempts to bring order out of the confusion was at first fruitless, but finally the firemen and police were able to check the children, although they had to contend with an excited mob of weeping mothers that had appeared as soon as the news of the fire spread out over the neighborhood. The fire itself amounted to little, and as soon as it was extinguished an examination of the injured was commenced. It was found that while hundreds were badly bruised and shocked, no one was fatally or seriously hurt.

### SHOCKINGLY MANGLED.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., Nov. 21.—On Wednesday evening Swan Nyström, a Swedish coal miner employed at the Aztec mine at Gallup, this county, got on a loaded coal car in one of the side entries to ride out. This is prohibited, on account of its danger, by the company. Mr. Nyström and the driver were both on the car when, as it turned a curve, the driver was thrown off, and at the same moment the car jumped the track, striking a prop which was knocked down. Mr. Nyström was thrown from the car, and at the same instant a mass of rock which had been held up by the prop came down upon the unfortunate man, literally crushing him to pieces, breaking almost every bone in his body and mangle the flesh fearfully. He was heard to groan once before life was extinct. The miners were soon notified, but it took willing hands over half an hour to remove the fallen rock. The remains were buried by the Knights of Labor, of which order he was a member. He leaves a wife and four small children, with another to be born. He was about thirty-three years old.

### A BRIDEGROOM DROWNED.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—A dispatch from Wheeling, W. Va., says: Patrick Waters and Jessie Bates were married at St. George, Tucker County, Tuesday. Next day they were taken from the waters of the Black Fork at Silas Ferry apparently dead. Mrs. Waters was revived after an hour's hard work, but all efforts to resuscitate the husband were fruitless. The newly wedded couple went on their wedding trip to the Great falls of the Blackwater, one of the most picturesque sights in West Virginia. In attempting to cross the unfinished railroad bridge at Carricksford Mrs. Waters grew dizzy, and, losing her balance, fell into the stream, which there runs with a velocity of nearly twenty miles an hour. Her husband at once plunged after her, and the two were swept away. At the ford, a quarter of a mile below, a railroad man attempted to rescue the couple and narrowly escaped death. At Silas Ferry the couple were taken from the water, but too late to save the husband's life.

### PARACHUTE PERFORMER DROWNED.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Nov. 21.—Twelve thousand people witnessed a balloon ascension at Exposition Park yesterday afternoon. Prof. H. P. Vandergriff made the ascension. When the balloon had reached an altitude of half a mile it suddenly burst and began to descend to the ground rapidly to the horror of the spectators. Vandergriff cut the rope which held the parachute. The parachute fell near the center of the Chattahoochee river, and Vandergriff was drowned in spite of the efforts of two men in a boat to save him. The unfortunate man was twenty-five years of age. He was born in Vienna and had been in the balloon business twelve years. He made his first parachute descent three months ago. The body was discovered at eleven o'clock last night, completely enmeshed in the ropes of the balloon. It will be embalmed and sent to Vandergriff's parents at Clinton, Mo.

### PANIC IN A STORE.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—A man on the top floor of the Boston store was caught in the act of stealing a purse shortly after one o'clock yesterday, and a foolish salesman yelled "Fire!" A panic was at once precipitated. The great place was jammed with shoppers, mostly women, and on the five floors there were probably not less than one thousand human beings packed tightly together. A floor walker turned in an alarm of fire, and the frightened women, children and shop girls made a rush for the stairways. Soon there was a jam, and the weaker began to go down. A policeman and some of the more cool-headed employees went to work to stop the panic. Before they succeeded, however, a number of people were seriously hurt and many more were nearly dead from fright.

### Beat the Boulevard Record.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—Bert Meyers, a member of the Peoria Bicycle Club, finished a twenty-four hour ride over the boulevard of this city yesterday afternoon, making 289 miles, and beating both the Chicago and American amateur records.

## DOUBLE HANGING.

### Two Negro Desperados Hanged at Wichita, Kan., For the Murder of Two Cattlemen in the Indian Territory.

WICHITA, Kan., Nov. 21.—Jake and Joe Tobler, two colored men twenty-three and twenty-one years old respectively, were hanged yesterday morning at the county jail for the murder of James Cass and John Goodykuntz three years ago in the Indian Territory. When asked upon the scaffold if they had any thing to say each responded quickly "No," and the drop fell at 10:25. They were pronounced dead in less than four minutes.

### THE CRIME.

The crime was committed on August 16, 1888, about one mile north of the Sac and Fox agency in the Indian Territory. The victims, John Cass and Robert Goodykuntz, two cattlemen living at Vinita, several miles northeast in the Territory, in the early part of that month left for Texas after cattle, traveling in a two horse wagon. On the night of the 16th they reached the scene of the murder and went into camp under a large tree. Having fed and staked their horses and taken supper they lay down under the tree by the side of the wagon for the night. Shortly before midnight an Indian who happened to be in hearing distance heard four shots fired in the vicinity of the scene of the murder. Next morning some parties from the agency happened along and found two bodies. Word was sent to the agency and parties were soon at the scene who recognized the two men and readily understood that they had been murdered. The unfortunate men late in the evening before had been at the agency and called on some acquaintances.

Suspicion immediately centered upon the Tobler boys, as they were soon observed to be absent and it was also called to mind that they were of the tough character in the Territory and also had been observed paying special attention to the men while at the agency on the previous evening.

The killing had been done with shot-guns, two loads fired at each man. They had apparently died unconscious of the attack made upon them. Their blankets with wagon and team were gone and nothing of value left in their pockets.

Officers were soon on the hunt for them and four days after found them at the home of their uncle, about sixty miles east. They were placed under arrest and the team, together with the watches of the two murdered men, were in their possession and the prisoners claimed to have secured only \$4 in money.

Their trial commenced in the United States Court in this city September 1, last, and they were found guilty. On the 15th Judge Foster sentenced them to be hanged November 21.

## BEAUTIFUL TERRORS.

### Escape of the Daring Female Horse Thieves From Jail.

HITCHKINSON, Kan., Nov. 21.—Reliable information was received here yesterday from Syracuse, Kan., announcing the escape from jail of the bold and daring female horse thieves, Ida Weston and Emma Mentry. These beautiful women were in the past the terror of the frontier. At the time of their capture, some weeks since, many wild stories were told of their adventures. One account was that they had stolen almost a score of horses and in their raids had many times escaped pursuers who were well armed with Winchester. That some one has become a victim to their charms is settled beyond a doubt. The keys to the jail were locked in a safe place in the Opera Hotel, and must have been purloined by one familiar with the house.

After the birds were released the jail door was locked and the keys returned to their hanging place. No clew to the whereabouts of the thieves has been discovered nor is any one under suspicion as their assistant. The sheriff was absent from home at the time attending to private business.

These girls are cultured, refined and beautiful. They have never been heard to utter one word of complaint at the treatment received while incarcerated in the rather small frontier jail, nor did they express any regret at their actions. For some days past one of them has adopted the popular expression, "We are all right." The country will be scourred in all directions and every nook and corner will be watched to capture these women, whose only fault seems a mania for stealing horses.

## WILL INVESTIGATE.

### Knights of Labor Adopt a Motion to Investigate the General Officers.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 21.—An unread communication from Philadelphia to the general assembly of the Knights of Labor, regarding Barry's charge that district assembly 74, of East Saginaw, had been dissolved to defeat Barry, caused the introduction and adoption of a motion for the appointment of a committee to investigate the methods of the general officers. This action was taken after a good deal of debate and then a still more troublesome question arose as to who should appoint the committee. Powderly, being one of those who would be investigated, refused the responsibility. It was suggested that he appoint one, that another be appointed by W. T. Lewis, of the miners' assembly, who is regarded as Powderly's chief opponent, and that the third member be selected by those two, but the suggestion was not adopted. The remark that Barry appoint the committee caused some laughter, but was not considered further.

### The Cherokee Strip.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 21.—The most important meeting of cattlemen that has been held in Kansas City for some time convened at parlor 8 of the Midland Hotel yesterday afternoon. The meeting represented a good many million dollars and when it adjourned it had practically settled the vexed question of the lease of the Cherokee Strip. The Cherokee Live-Stock Association will get the lease again at \$200,000 a year, an increase of \$100,000. The meeting had scarcely adjourned before members of the Live-Stock Association had boarded the cars for the Indian Territory and the wires were hot with dispatches to Chief Mayes and members of the Cherokee Council telling of its results.

## DRESSED BEEF.

### The Combine Captures a Cattle Convention—Why State Inspection is Opposed.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 21.—It is now openly asserted that the dressed beef men have carried the day and that if there is a joint convention of the range men and butchers it will amount to nothing more than the reading of papers and not the discussion of how to circumvent the dressed beef men. The dressed beef representatives sent a circular to each association asking that the convention be called to order and that they be admitted to participate in its deliberations. They invited full and free discussion of the live-stock question, with the object in view of asking Congress to provide for a rigid investigation of all live stock on the hoof at all of the large slaughtering points in the country, which would include Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Omaha and New York. The convention was postponed yesterday owing to the discovery made by the range men and butchers that the dressed beef representatives had captured it and could do about as they pleased with it. The leaders therefore took time to endeavor to avert disaster.

The conference is a remarkable one for it is the first where the dressed beef interests have entered into opposition and shown their hand. They have the advantage on the question of being admitted to the convention for the call was for representative men in all branches of the cattle industry. It is claimed the beef trust have enough men here to outvote the opposition on any point. The commission men are with the dressed beef interests. The former oppose State inspection because it will convince European Governments that American cattle are diseased while they claim there never were more healthy cattle and thus shut off exportation, which now amounts to but 600,000 head annually, while it should be at least 1,500,000. The dressed beef men are opposed to it because the necessity of inspection on the hoof would imperil the \$20,000,000 invested in the different branches of their industry. Both are in favor of National inspection because it would be a guarantee of good health which would be accepted at home and abroad.

## VERDICT OF GUILTY.

### Two Kansas Men Convicted of Murder in the Indian Territory.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Nov. 21.—The most interesting and sensational murder case that has been in the Federal court for years terminated last night in a verdict of guilty as to Henry W. Miller and William Woods, two prominent citizens of Doniphan County, Kan. On the 25th of last November Woods left home with an old schoolmate and friend named Johnny Hantz for a long hunt in the Indian Territory. They subsequently picked up a companion in a stranger named Miller, who went with them. They were gone three months and were seen in various parts of the Choctaw and Cherokee Nations. When Miller and Woods returned home Hantz was missing and a searching party afterwards found his body in Verdigris river, face down, with a bullet hole in the back of his head. His watch was found in Miller's pocket. The evidence was purely of a circumstantial nature, and the recovery of the body was due mainly to the devotion of a pointer dog belonging to the murdered man. The dog refused to leave the place of its master's murder, and bayed continually until too weak to move, until the body was found. Both Woods and Miller are respectable citizens of Kansas, and several prominent attorneys from that State were employed in their defense.

## CAPTAIN BUNCH.

### The Bold Train Robber Also Wanted For Swindling.

FORT WORTH, Tex., Nov. 21.—The notorious Captain E. F. Bunch, the man who robbed the Queen and Crescent near New Orleans, is wanted badly in Fort Worth by a number of men who hold worthless notes made by Bunch, aggregating so far over \$4,000. The first intimation of this was secured from a suit filed in the district court by J. C. Harrison, a banker, against W. P. Calloway, J. P. Hayes, A. S. Gates and E. F. Bunch, on a vendors' lien note for \$800. The note purported to have been made by A. S. Gates, payable to Bunch on land purchased. Bunch sold the note to Calloway and Harper and they discounted it to Harrison. It was not paid when due, so Harrison sued. Investigation by Calloway and Harper shows that Gates bought no land and made no note. He is supposed to live in Denton County. The note is a forgery. Colonel O. Brewster, a capitalist, holds a similar note for \$750, bought from Bunch. Two other notes, one for \$600 and the other for \$485, are held by J. C. Luning. All are of the same character. It is said that another capitalist holds seven notes of the same kind and all are forgeries. Most of the forgeries were committed within four months past.

### The Parnell Commission Judges Put a Heavy Fine on Edward Harrington.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—In the Parnell Commission this morning Mr. Reid, attorney for Mr. Harrington, said that Mr. Harrington did not choose to adopt the course he had advised in the matter of the article abusing the Commission, which had appeared in Harrington's paper, the Kerry Sentinel, therefore he (Reid) was not in a position to say any thing.

Presiding Judge Hannon asked Mr. Harrington if he had any thing to say.

Mr. Harrington replied that he had no statement to make, except that he would accept the responsibility for what had appeared in his paper.

The Judges retired. In ten minutes the Judges reappeared and Judge Hannon said he regretted that Mr. Harrington had refused to adopt Mr. Reid's advice. It would be wasting words to indicate how serious was the contempt of court of which his paper had been guilty. It was necessary that the authority of the court should be maintained and therefore such things must be stopped. He then fined Mr. Harrington £500.

### Grangers Want Deep Water.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 21.—The National Grangelast evening passed a resolution urging Congress to appropriate money for a deep water harbor on the northwest coast of the Gulf of Mexico.